

To Whom It May Concern::

Dear Sirs:

Ms. Jacque Daughtry has asked me to provide the following information to you regarding her. Specifically, she requested information that might provide some psychological rationale as to why women who are raped often do not report it and/or why it often takes years before they are able to do so.

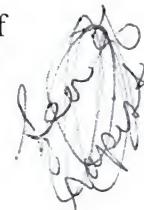
In my professional opinion numerous factors play an important factor in the low incidence of reporting by rape victims. In fact, most estimates suggest that 80-90% of rapes are probably not reported to authorities. This low reporting rate is certainly worthy of serious consideration as it does not hold true for women who are victims of other type crimes or of women who suffer from accidental injury.

Women who are raped typically experience severe traumatizing experiences. The rape induced effects of PTSD are well known and will be not be discussed extensively. However, in essence, rape is a very traumatic event which can produce a wide range of difficulties in psychological functioning. For example, the person who was raped may or may not be able to say that she was actually raped, or she may seek medical attention for a different complaint. Emotional reactions differ greatly and may include: shame, confusion, social withdrawal, tearfulness, nervousness or seemingly inappropriate laughter, numbness, hostility, and great fear. It can take a victim a long time to start to recover from these problems.

Additionally, a reason for disproportionately low rates of reporting of rape could be that even though cases may be brought to the courts there might be system obstacles and discrimination in the form of unreasonable evidentiary requirements. Also, rape victims generally experience a strong sense shame and humiliation as well as the feeling that people see them as being at least partly at fault. Further, the rejection of the rape victim's uncorroborated testimony, the detailed scrutiny of their history along with the focus on the victim's level of resistance tends to led them feel that they are the ones actually on trial rather than the rapist. Further, they are at times accused of having ulterior motives and sometimes subjected to degrading questions with often pornographic implications.

Thus, it appears that there are several factors of critical importance in the huge number of rape victims who fail to file charges against their attacker and those for whom the statute of limitations expires before they are able to attempt to bring charges. These include the sense of great shame which rape can bring as well as other psychological factors associated with PTSD.

It should be noted that, depression and social adjustment often improve within several months following the trauma. On the other hand, sometimes they do not. The reality is that symptoms such as fear, anxiety, reliving of the trauma, sleep disturbances, nightmares, avoidance of the stimuli reminiscent of the assault, may persist in many victims for years or forever



However

There is another factor which appears to be of major importance and it seems to frequently go unmentioned. This factor is that of the power disparity between the victim and the rapist. I do not mean simply who is more physically powerful.

How can victims and offenders go on living in the same community when the perpetrator is significantly more powerful than the victim. This question is particularly complicated because the offenses are committed mostly by people who are well known to the victims. The offenders may be husbands, lovers, fathers, friends, neighbors, and teachers or other people who are often admired and respected members of their communities. Sometimes they are famous and idolized by other people.

Many rape victims believe that the usual procedures of criminal and civil law are not effectively set up to provide a remedy for crimes such as rape. It seems that legal system is organized primarily as an adversarial contest between two people in civil cases. .

It appears to rape victims that the system is somewhat tilted against them. Thus, they see aggressive arguments, selective presentation of facts, and psychological attack being permitted on them by the court with the presumption that this seemingly hostile encounter offers the better method of arriving at the truth. It appears that Constitutional limits on this form of arriving at the truth are solely designed to protect those who are criminal defendants from the superior power of the government. However, nowhere does it seem to protect private citizens from one another. Thus, the judicial process as it appears to a rape victim attempting to seek justice in a civil suit is that the law pretends that there is no disparity in power whether based on age, race, gender, political power, social status, or economic wealth between accuser and accused. Everyone is said to be at the same level of power regardless of the actual advantages that the perpetrator may possess. Thus, victims of violent rape perceive that the judicial process appears to provide a strong defense for the right of their attacker, but does not really protect their rights.

The victims of rape by powerful people tend to see this presumption of power equality as being similar to the “elephant in the room” that people simply agree to effectively not see. However, to a rape victim common sense dictates that a rapist who is very wealthy, socially influential, popular and enormously politically powerful will be able to protect themselves from being held accountable by simply terrifying and continuing to intimidate the victim until the statute of limitations expires. Further, this factor drastically reduces the likelihood that the victim, who typically has limited resources, can find an attorney willing to take them on because of the risk and the expense involved.

Thus, the perpetrator can typically effectively eliminate or reduce the risk of exposure to themselves by having the victim killed at a later time. Or they can control the victim by continuing to torment in many ways and/or by inducing continual extreme fear of death or harm to the victim and/or to their loved ones. The end result is that many victims of violent rape by powerful people are seriously impaired in their ability to cope productively for the remainder of their lives. Thus, the life that the rape victim had worked to build is destroyed and they are deprived of that probable life as surely as they

would have been if they had killed during the attack. In essence, for them they are never safe again in their life as the rape is never over. However, even though the rapist destroyed the victim's life, they themselves can generally feel safe as soon as the statute of limitations expires. Thus, it is important that from a psychological standpoint that people tend to always do what works. Thus, it would be very unrealistic to expect a rapist not to use any and all available resources to protect themselves, their family and their reputations.

Therefore, the message to powerful perpetrators is quite simple. All that is necessary is to use some of their readily available power and resources to harass, to terrorize and to intimidate the victim until the statute of limitations has expired and then they are home free.

I believe that these are some of the relevant factors which have resulted in the extraordinarily high percentage of rape victims who either are not psychologically capable of bringing charges against their attacker or to seek justice within the statute of limitations or who simply decline to ever report the crime..

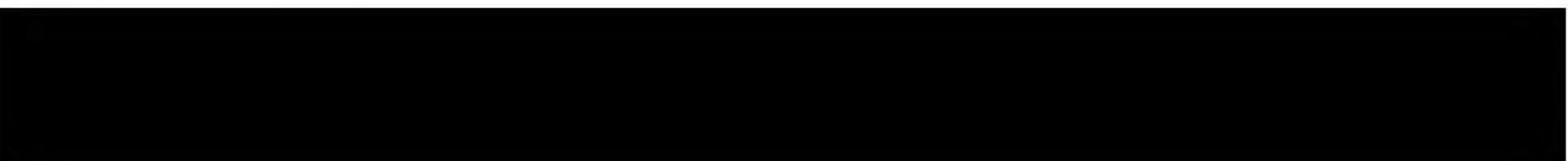
In Jacque's case, as a result of her violent rape and of the subsequent destruction of her personal and professional life along with the ongoing daily fear of death or severe physical harm due to threatened violence, she was extremely traumatized. Thus, she developed basically the same PTSD symptoms as those experienced by prisoners of war and by heavy combat veterans.

Very briefly, Ms. Daughtry entered treatment full time with me in early 1996. I had previous experience with her treatment as she had been treated by my business associate, Dr. Mark Polkosnik since about 1992. During that time, I had seen her on an emergency basis when he was not available and he had consulted with me numerous times regarding her treatment.

Please note that I have been retired from practice as psychologist for some time and I no longer have available to me the specific files regarding her treatment. Thus, the dates and details are as I recall them.

A brief review of her violent rape along with its induced trauma is as follows:

Sometime, in early 1988, she was the victim of a violent and forcible rape which involved the use of a weapon to induce the fear of death was used to intimidate her. The man who raped her was a very wealthy and very influential man who had the support of many extremely politically powerful people. Jacque had a successful career in the world of music and entertainment and worked for this individual. Therefore, he essentially held her career in the palm of his hand.



Jacque was terrified and as ordered initially denied that she had been raped. She experienced a number of other violent incidents which happened in connection with this rape incident and experienced a number of extremely severe stressors. The result of this rape and her subsequent treatment because of the tremendous power wielded by her rapist was that she was destroyed both personally and professionally. She lost her career, her money, her husband and her reputation. People began to see her as a "flake" and she became increasingly isolated feeling helpless and hopeless. She developed a severe Post Traumatic Stress Disorder(PTSD) and became increasingly less able to productively function.

As time went on, she became more and more unable to deal with the emotional distress caused by being raped and by the further victimization by the rapist through the great power disparity which existed between the two of them. She was devastated to find that people now perceived her as having a lack of credibility and to find that no one really wanted to take her seriously once she had regained her psychological resources to the point that she tried to tell what had really happened to her. It took years before she was able to recover psychologically to the point that she could try to fight back. She was unable to try to seek justice until she had been in psychological treatment for some time. The purpose of this treatment was to help her to deal with her PTSD and to gain the emotional and psychological strength to attempt to have her rapist held accountable. This took tremendous courage on her part as she had feared and continued to fear for her life on a daily basis.

When she began to fight back, sometime in 1995 she volunteered for and passed a polygraph test regarding her allegations about the rape. With these test results, she tried to file charges in South Carolina against the man who raped her. Her allegations were not well received and no charges were filed. However, she did begin to experience significantly more harassment and threats of bodily harm. From that time, until she left Atlanta, Georgia years later she had no moments of real peace in her life in which she did not fear for herself and for when she married again for her husband.

I have worked with Jacque for ten years and I have never found her to be less than truthful. I would like to note that in addition to being a psychologist that I was a certified peace officer for nearly twenty years and I consulted to a state prison where I did Parole Evaluations. Thus, I have had a wide experience with people being less than factual with me.